

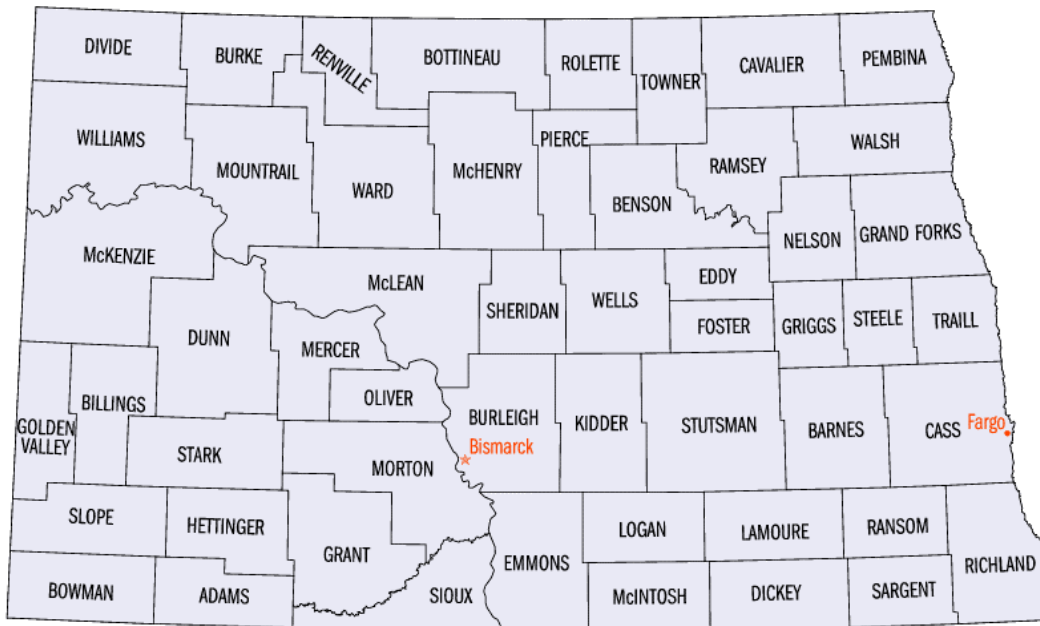
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Bismarck, North Dakota

Profile of Drug Indicators

December 2002



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Bismarck, North Dakota

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, funding, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population (2000 Census): 55,532
- Race/Ethnicity (2000): 94.3% white; 0.3% black/African American; 3.3% American/Alaska Native; 0.4% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander; 0.0% some other race; 0.8% two or more races; 0.7% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)
- The city of Bismarck is located in Burleigh County.

Politics

- Mayor: John Warford²
- City Commission: H. Bryce Hill; David Jensen; Connie Sprynczynatyk; Sandi Tabor³
- Bismarck Chief of Police: Debbie Ness⁴
- Burleigh County Sheriff: Bob Harvey⁵

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁶
Designated in 1996, the Midwest HIDTA includes sections of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. In North Dakota, this HIDTA is responsible for the following counties: Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Morton, Ramsey, Richland, Walsh, and Ward. The North Dakota counties did not join the Midwest HIDTA until February 1999. The mission of the Midwest HIDTA is to reduce drug production, trafficking, and distribution in the HIDTA areas.
- Meth on the Street⁷
Produced by *The Bismarck Tribune*, Meth on the Street is an ongoing series of newspaper reports that highlight the growing prevalence of methamphetamine production, trafficking, and use in the Bismarck area.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program⁸
No community coalitions in Bismarck have ever received funding through the Drug-Free Communities Support Program.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed⁹
There are no areas in Bismarck that have been recognized as Weed and Seed sites.
- Bismarck did not receive any methamphetamine funding in 2002 from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).¹⁰
- FY 2001 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Discretionary Funds received in Bismarck:
 - \$59,904 to Mental Health Association in North Dakota. Project period 9/30/01-9/29/04.
 - \$333,089 to United Tribes Technical College. Project period 9/30/97-8/31/03.
 - \$100,000 to North Dakota of Human Services. Project period 9/30/01-9/29/04.

- Bismarck did not receive any funding through the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program.¹¹
- Bismarck did not receive funding from the Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grants in 2001.¹²
- FY 2001 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in Bismarck:¹³
 - \$9,623,907 in formula funds
 - \$2,932,311 in discretionary funds

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- The Bismarck Police Department reported 163 arrests for drug abuse violations in 2001.¹⁴ This is an increase over the 102 drug arrests reported by the Bismarck Police Department in 2000.¹⁵

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, Bismarck Police Department, 2000-2001

Offense	2000	2001
Murder/Non-negligent manslaughter	0	0
Negligent manslaughter	1	0
Forcible rape	2	2
Robbery	2	3
Aggravated assault	6	38
Burglary	16	24
Larceny/theft	518	439
Motor vehicle theft	17	29
Other assault	229	202
Arson	0	13
Drug abuse violations	102	163
DUI	356	375
Liquor law violations	396	465

- Bismarck Police Department officials report an increasing number of thefts of over-the-counter medications and chemicals that can be used to produce methamphetamine.¹⁶
- The Burleigh Sheriff's Office reported 67 drug arrests during 2001.¹⁷ This is an increase over the 57 drug arrests reported by the Burleigh Sheriff's Office during 2000.¹⁸

Drugs

- Heroin

While there are indications of heroin availability in the Bismarck area, there were no heroin-related arrests or seizures in 2000.¹⁹
- Cocaine

According to the Bismarck Police Department, cocaine abuse has decreased since 1998.²⁰

- Club Drugs
LSD abuse is increasing in the Bismarck area, particularly among college students and young adults. The drug is available in liquid form and on sugar cubes.²¹
- Diverted Pharmaceuticals
OxyContin abuse is increasing in Bismarck and abusers are writing fraudulent prescriptions, altering prescriptions, and even posing as doctors to obtain the drug.²²

Enforcement

- As of October 2001, there were 107 law enforcement employees in Bismarck, 80 officers and 27 civilians.²³
- Bismarck Police Department drug-related initiatives:²⁴
 - Drug Education – This program is designed to help children and adults recognize illegal substances and equip them with the information they need to make good decisions regarding the temptation to use drugs.
 - Marijuana Education Program – This program educates youth of the legal consequences of marijuana and other drug use.
- Midwest HIDTA initiative in the Bismarck area:²⁵
 - HIDTA Task Force Bismarck – Member of this task force target methamphetamine manufacturing, importation, and distribution organizations operating in Bismarck and other parts of North Dakota.

Trafficking and Seizures

- Native American independent drug dealers distribute drugs to Caucasian abusers. They also distribute drugs on Indian reservations.²⁶
- Mexican criminal groups transport large quantities of marijuana in private vehicles from Denver to Bismarck.²⁷
- Mexican males transport an estimated 15 to 20 pounds of methamphetamine into the area every two weeks via private vehicles.²⁸
- The Sons of Silence outlaw motorcycle gang maintains a chapter in Bismarck. Sons of Silence is responsible for transporting methamphetamine and other drugs into the Bismarck area.²⁹
- According to the Metro Area Narcotics Task Force and the Bismarck Police Department, Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary distributors of Mexican-produced marijuana. Local marijuana producers distribute the drug in their production areas.³⁰
- From January to June 2002, there were 12 methamphetamine lab seizures in Burleigh County reported by the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation.³¹

Courts

- Drug Courts³²
As of November 2002, there was one drug court in Bismarck that had been recently implemented. No additional drug courts are in existence or being planned in Bismarck.

Consequences of Use

- According to the Bismarck Police Department, the number of methamphetamine overdoses has increased in the area.³³

Treatment

- Treatment admissions to publicly funded facilities were fewer for smoked cocaine (crack) than for cocaine admissions via other routes.³⁴

Sources

¹ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

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³ Ibid.

⁴ North Dakota Criminal Justice Web site, Criminal Justice Information:

<http://www.ndcriminaljustice.com/gov-structure/adv-com.html>

⁵ Burleigh County Sheriff Department: <http://www.co.burleigh.nd.us/sheriff.html>

⁶ Office of National Drug Control Policy, Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area:

http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_midw.html

⁷ “Meth on the Street,” *The Bismarck Tribune*: <http://bismarcktribune.com/series/meth/index.html>

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⁹ Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows/neighborhoods.htm>

¹⁰ Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, *COPS Methamphetamine Grant Announcement*, November 14, 2002: http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/GrantAnnounce/meth_grantees.pdf

¹¹ Office of Justice Programs, FY 2002 Drug Court Grants:

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¹² Department of Housing and Urban Development, *Federally Assisted Low-Income Housing Drug Elimination Grants Detailed Congressional Report – Fiscal Year 2001*:

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¹⁴ North Dakota Office of the Attorney General, *Crime in North Dakota, 2001*, 2002:

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¹⁷ North Dakota Office of the Attorney General, *Crime in North Dakota, 2001*, 2002:

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¹⁸ North Dakota Office of the Attorney General, *Crime in North Dakota, 2000*, 2001:

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¹⁹ National Drug Intelligence Center, *North Dakota Threat Assessment*, May 2002:

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²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2001*, October 2002:

<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm>

²⁴ Bismarck Police Department, Support Services Division Web site:

http://www.bismarck.org/city_departments/departments/divisions.asp?dID=15&divID=50

²⁵ Office of National Drug Control Policy, Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area:
http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_midw.html

²⁶ National Drug Intelligence Center, *North Dakota Threat Assessment*, May 2002:
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²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ “Meth Busts Soar,” *Narcotics Enforcement & Prevention Digest*, June 14, 2002

³² Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, November 26, 2002:
<http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/spa/justice/publications/drgchart2k.pdf>

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This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues, contact:

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